

RESTRICTED

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Security Information

MAY 6 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Staff
United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

SUBJECT: Operation Recruit

1. Due to the unique military personnel requirements of the Central Intelligence Agency, it became necessary, several months ago to reconcile the Air Force policy of manning by qualification and this agency's need to hand-pick personnel after interview.
2. Through the cooperation of the Air Force Officers Assignment Division, this problem was solved, our immediate needs well satisfied, and a valuable reservoir of qualified candidates established. The program under which this was done has been known as "Operation Recruit." Through this operation several hundred officer files were reviewed and those officers selected brought to Washington on temporary duty for placement interviews.
3. I am told by our Military Personnel Division that the caliber of the officers whom we interviewed was outstandingly high, reflecting most favorably on the Air Force, and resulting in the selection of many fine officers to fill key jobs in CIA.
4. Due to our retained personnel requirements, it has now proved to be unnecessary to continue the program on a full scale basis. However, I wish to express my appreciation for the splendid cooperation of your Personnel Officers in handling this project.

HAROLD E. SMITH
Director

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MEMORANDUM TO: THE DIRECTOR

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Recommend signature.



WALTER REID WOLF
Deputy Director
(Administration)

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3 May 1952
(DATE)